



ALTERNATIVES ANALYSIS NEWSLETTER

WEST SANTA ANA BRANCH

ISSUE 2

MAY 2011

This is the second of a series of e-newsletters to inform stakeholders about efforts to create additional travel options between Los Angeles and Orange Counties.

OVERVIEW

The Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) is leading a collaborative study of utilizing the historic Pacific Electric Right-of-Way to connect downtown Los Angeles, the Santa Ana Regional Transportation Center, and communities in between. This untapped resource presents a valuable opportunity for a new transit system offering a fast, convenient, environmentally-friendly, cost-saving alternative to driving.

For more information, including a list of participating agencies and representatives on our advisory committees, visit www.pacificelectriccorridor.com.

JOIN US FOR AN UPDATE

You are invited to an informal Open House featuring the most up-to-date information on the study. Join us for light refreshments and interact with SCAG and project staff one-to-one. Ask questions, view displays. Everyone is welcome!

**MONDAY, JUNE 27, 2011
5:30PM - 7:30 PM**

South Gate Civic Center, Main Hall
8680 California Ave.
South Gate, CA 90280

**TUESDAY, JUNE 28, 2011
5:30PM - 7:30 PM**

The Courtyard Center
12732 Main Street
Garden Grove, CA 92840

INTRODUCING THE FINAL SET OF ALTERNATIVES

Based upon input from community meetings held in Winter 2010 and from the advisory committees guiding the study, the following Final Set of transportation alternatives has been identified. From May to October 2011, these strategies will be evaluated, using criteria that reflect community values and concerns, to determine how each would likely perform in the corridor.



NO BUILD

TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS
MANAGEMENT

METRO ORANGE LINE



PORTLAND STREETCAR



METRO GOLD LINE



NAGOYA MAGLEV

No Build

Complete only the transportation improvements which already have committed local, regional, state, or federal funding.

Transportation Systems Management

Maximize the use of the existing transportation network through minor improvements, such as increasing bus service, providing new bicycle facilities, and improving traffic flow with signalization improvements.

Bus Rapid Transit

Provide high-speed bus service operating in dedicated lanes along the former Pacific Electric right-of-way between Los Angeles and Orange counties, and connecting north to Downtown Los Angeles either on city streets with signal priority, or within freeway carpool lanes.

Streetcar

Build a community-oriented, light rail-like system similar to that being considered by the City of Santa Ana and in operations in the City of Portland.

Light Rail Transit

Build a rail system similar to the Metro Gold and Blue lines in Los Angeles County serving local and regional trips.

Low Speed Magnetically Levitated (Maglev) System

Build a grade-separated magnetically levitated system similar to the Linimo service currently operating in Nagoya, Japan.

NEXT STEPS

In November 2011, SCAG will present the evaluation results for community feedback in a final series of public meetings. In early 2012, SCAG will forward the study conclusions to the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority and the Orange County Transportation Authority. As the owners of the right-of-way, these agencies will determine which, if any, of the alternatives to carry forward into the environmental and engineering phases of project development.

**LESSONS FROM THE COMMUNITY:
WHAT WE'VE LEARNED SO FAR**

Input from the first round of meetings held in June 2010 helped SCAG to identify an initial set of transportation strategies to evaluate. The evaluation results were then presented in a second series of meetings held between November 16, 2010 and December 11, 2010. Over 160 people attended these public meetings held in six locations along the study corridor. Community members learned about the benefits and costs of different transportation options for the corridor, and were asked for their input on which of the alternative strategies would best meet their needs.

Following is a summary of key themes heard:

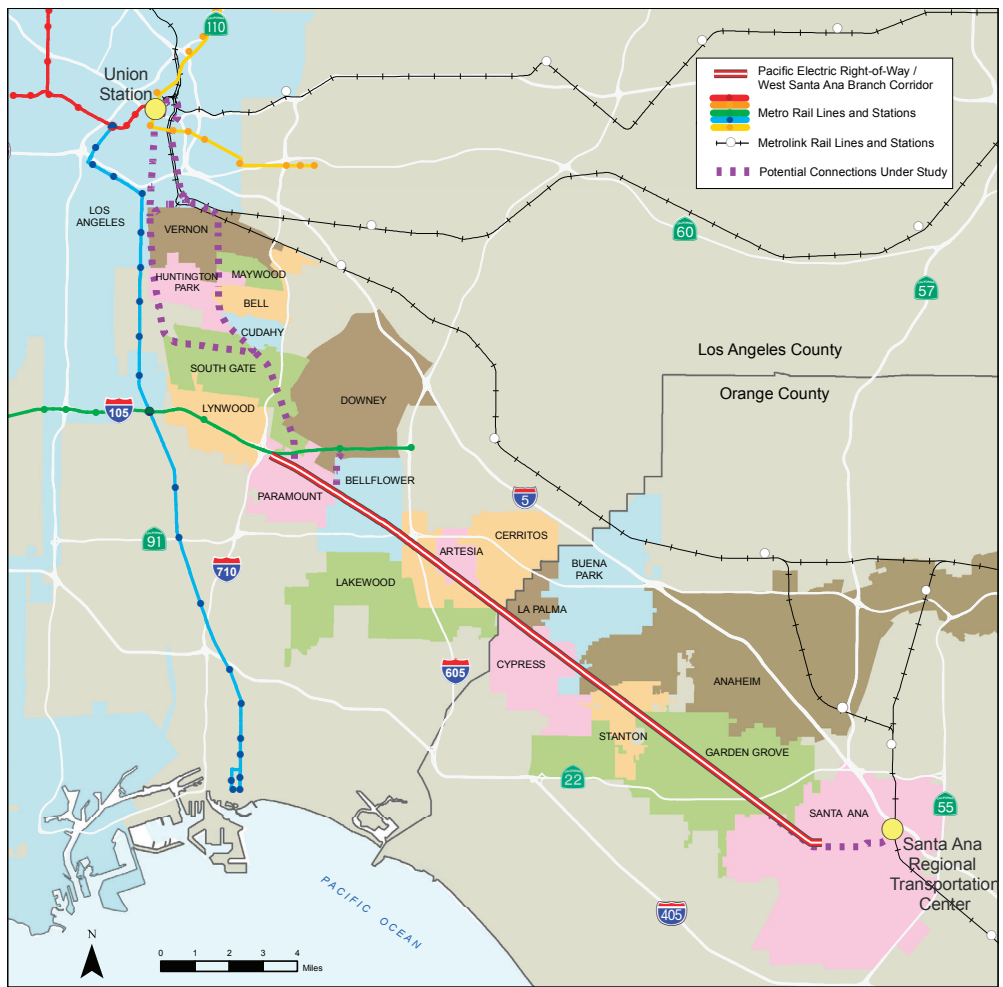
- There was continued enthusiasm for providing transit in the corridor, while preserving and enhancing the quality of life.
- Concerns identified by attendees included safety at street crossings, the need for adequate funding to implement improvements, and consideration for bicycle and pedestrian improvements.
- Of the different transit options presented, the community expressed strong support for light rail transit, while the diesel multiple unit and high speed options were the least favored.

For more information and summary reports of these meetings, please visit
www.pacificelectriccorridor.com/community-meetings.

CORRIDOR STUDY AREA

The study area includes the cities of Los Angeles, Vernon, Huntington Park, Maywood, Bell, Cudahy, South Gate, Lynwood, Downey, Paramount, Bellflower, Cerritos, Artesia, Lakewood, La Palma, Cypress, Buena Park, Anaheim, Stanton, Garden Grove, and Santa Ana, and the counties of Los Angeles and Orange.

The study will examine different options to connect from the Pacific Electric Right-of-Way north to Downtown Los Angeles and Union Station, and south to the Santa Ana Regional Transportation Center.



Sources: SCAG, TeleAtlas

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For more information, please contact:

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or visit www.pacificelectriccorridor.com**



**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
ASSOCIATION of GOVERNMENTS**

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COUNTY REGIONAL OFFICES

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